

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 IO-13 ACDA-07 /098 W

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P R 211153Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5414

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5796

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN

SUBJECT: GOI PROTESTS BORDER INCIDENTS; FARAKKA

1. THE GOI ISSUED A PRESS NOTE APRIL 20 STATING THAT IT HAD
LODGED A "STRONG PROTEST" (EXPRESSION USED BY "INDIAN
EXPRESS") WITH THE BG HIGH COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI CONCERNING
AN INCIDENT ON THE INDO-BANGLADESH BORDER. THE FOLLOWING
IS THE TEXT OF THE NOTE: (A) "AT 0900 HOURS ON 19TH APRIL,
AN INDIAN BORDER SECURITY FORCE PATROL IN MEGHALAYA WAS FIRED
UPON FROM ACROSS THE BORDER. (B) "ON RECEIPT OF THE REPORT
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE BORDER SECURITY FORCES, MR.
ASHWANI KUMAR, WHO IS ON A ROUTINE VISIT TO MEGHALAYA,
VISITED THE SCENE OF THE INCIDENT ALONG WITH THE INSPECTOR-
GENERAL OF BSF, SHILLONG, AND ANOTHER SENIOR OFFICER.
(C) "DURING THIS VISIT MR. ASHWANI KUMAR AND PART WERE FIRED
UPON FROM ACROSS THE BORDER WHILE THEY WERE WELL WITHIN INDIAN
TERRITORY. (D) "AS A RESULT OF THIS UNPROVOKED SHOOTING A
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MEMBER OF THE PATROL ACCOMPANYING THE PARTY OF THE DIRECTOR-

GENERAL OF BSF SUFFERED A SERIOUS INJURY AND WAS EVACUATED TO A HOSPITAL. (E) "THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAS REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH TO INSTITUTE AN IMMEDIATE INQUIRY INTO THE INCIDENT AND TO BRING THE OFFENDERS TO BOOK. (F) "THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH HAS ALSO BEEN REQUESTED TO TAKE ADEQUATE MEASURES TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF SUCH INCIDENTS IN THE INTEREST OF MAINTAINING TRANQUILITY ON THE BORDER AND AMITY AND GOODWILL BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

2. THE INCIDENT AND THE GOI NOTED RECEIVED PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN THE DELHI PRESS A
RIL 21.

3. "INDIAN EXPRESS" APRIL 21 REPORTS THAT THE BDG HAS SUGGESTED HIGH-LEVEL TALKS TO RESOLVE THE IMPASSE OVER FARAKKA. THE BANGLADESHIS REPORTEDLY HAVE NOT AGREED TO THE INDIAN SUGGESTION THAT THE JOINT RIVER COMMISSION EXAMINE THE ALLEGATIONS OF ADVERSE EFFECTS ON BANGLADESH. DACCA REPORTEDLY HAS EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO CUT SHORT WHAT IT CALLS THE "TECHNICAL STAGES." (COMMENT: THIS IS CONTRARY TO DACCA 2024 REPORTING THAT THE BDG HAD AGREED TO A TECHNICAL MISSION FIRST WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A GOODWILL MISSION.)

4. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON BOTH THESE SUBJECTS, BUT UNFORTUNATELY PEOPLE ABLE TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 26.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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